

JOHN D. DINGELL
15TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

CHAIRMAN EMERITUS
COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

CO-CHAIR
HOUSE GREAT LAKES
TASK FORCE

MEMBER
MIGRATORY BIRD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2215

June 22, 2009

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Segreteria Particolare della
Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri
Signor Presidente del Consiglio
On. Silvio Berlusconi
Palazzo Chigi
Piazza Colonna, 370
00187 Roma

Dear Signor Presidente:

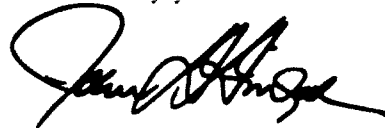
I write to you today on behalf of my constituents who are served by the offices of the Consul General of Detroit, Michigan, USA. I understand that the present facility located at 535 Griswold Street is to be closed and its operations moved to a site in Chicago, Illinois.

I am hopeful that the decision can be reviewed. This state has a large and viable Italian community, one that reaches out in great numbers to the Detroit consulate office in regard to many important issues such as passports, certificates of birth, marriage and death, and also land transactions in Italy. Italian passports are renewable in Detroit, and assistance offered in emergencies.

While I am cognizant of those needs, there is a far greater one to be considered. The Detroit-based auto industry is on the brink of new alliances of a global nature. We in Michigan are watching closely the Chrysler-Fiat partnership and what it will mean to our economy of this region. There are opportunities ahead and a consulate office in Detroit could be an all important link. I ask that you continue to be part of a new era.

With every good wish,

Sincerely yours,



John D. Dingell
Member of Congress